## AMENDMENT(S) TO THE CLAIMS

 (Currently Amended) A method for processing input from a command line interface, wherein the input comprises a macro, the method comprising:

<u>expanding replacing</u> the macro <u>by replacing the macro</u> with an executable command of the command line interface, <u>the executable command comprising a</u> string; and,

executing the executable command independent of compilation.

- 2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising prompting a user to identify an executable command that is to replace the macro, wherein the replacing expanding step further comprises replacing the macro with the identified executable command.
- 3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising: prompting a user to identify a function that is to be used to generate the executable command to replace the macro; and calling the identified function to generate said executable command, wherein the replacing expanding step further comprises replacing the macro with the generated executable command.
- 4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of replacing expanding further comprises calling a script engine to generate script to replace the macro with the executable command.

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prompting a user to identify a script that is to be used to generate the executable command to replace the macro; calling a script engine to execute the identified script to generate-said the executable command, wherein the-replacing expanding step further comprises replacing the macro with the generated executable command.

- 6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising calling a function to generate an executable command to replace the macro, wherein the replacing expanding step further comprises replacing the macro with the generated executable command.
- (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the function is called from a run-time library.
- (Original) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon computer-executable instructions for performing the method of claim 1.

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(Currently Amended) A method for processing a batch file comprising at least one macro, the method comprising:

parsing the batch file to locate text representing the macro;

expanding the macro by replacing the macro with into an executable command of a command line interface, the executable command comprising a string; and

executing the batch file, including the <u>executable</u> command, independent of compilation.

- 10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the expanding step further comprises: in a first pass through the batch file, prompting the user to identify a function to be used to generate an executable command; replacing the macro with a second macro representing the identified function; in a second pass through the batch file, using the second macro to invoke the represented function and generate an the executable command; and replace replacing the macro with the generated executable command.
- 11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the expanding step further comprises: in a first pass through the batch file, locating a function identified by the macro; using the identified function to generate a second macro representing a second function; in a second pass through the batch file, using the second macro to invoke the second function and generate—an\_the executable command; and replacing the second macro with the generated\_executable command.

- 12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, further comprising: prompting the user to input data for expanding the macro; reading a field in the macro to determine the type of data that is to be received from the user; and receiving the user input, wherein the step of expanding the macro is based on the
- 13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein, if the determined type of data type is a filename, providing a means for allowing the user to browse available files and select a file to be used to expand the macro.
- 14. (Original) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon computer-executable instructions for performing the method of claim 9.

determined type of data.

a command line interface comprising a set of executable commands; and a command line processor for, at least:

parsing the command line input;

identifying one or more macros within the input;

expanding the one or more macros by replacing the one or more macros with into-at least one executable command of the command line interface, the at least one executable command comprising at least one string; and,

executing the <u>set of executable</u> commands independent of compilation.

- 16. (Original) The system of claim 15, further comprising a plug-in module for defining at least one of the macros, wherein the plug-in module is accessible by the command line processor.
- 17. (Original) The system of claim 15, further comprising a run-time library having functions that are executable by the command line processor to replace at least one of the macros with a line of text.
- 18. (Original) The system of claim 15, further comprising a run-time library having functions that are executable by the command line processor to replace at least one of the macros with another macro.

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- 19. (Original) The system of claim 15, further comprising: a scripting engine invokable by the command line processor; and a computer-readable medium having stored thereon a script that is executable by the scripting engine to replace at least one of the one or more macros with a line of text when the scripting engine is invoked by the command line processor.
- 20. (Original) The system of claim 15, further comprising a computer-readable medium having stored thereon a text file having one or more lines of commands, wherein at least one of the lines of commands includes at least one of the one or more macros.
- 21. (Original) The system of claim 20, further comprising a means for reading the text file.
- 22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the command line interface comprises an operating system prompt.
- 23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the command line interface comprises a disk operating system (DOS) prompt.
- 24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the replacing the macro with the executable command comprises loading a command line interface plug-in.

- **25.** (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the macro comprises a dynamic-linked library macro specifying, at least:
  - a dynamic-linked library; and

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- at least one function within the dynamic-linked library.
- 26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the macro comprises a dialog box macro specifying, at least, a dialog box type.